

AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT[21]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 163.1(1) and 163.6(2), the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 64, “Infectious and Contagious Diseases,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The proposed amendments reduce the number of required low pathogenic avian influenza tests for large turkey flocks and broiler and layer chicken flocks. Commercial turkey operations with 1,000 or more turkeys would have the number of preslaughter tests reduced from 15 to 6 blood samples and the number of slaughter tests reduced from 20 to 6 blood samples. Commercial chicken operations of 10,000 or more birds would have their required number of blood sample tests reduced to 11. The proposed amendments also clarify that the routine serologic testing required for laying chickens and pre-lay pullets is 11 birds per barn per year. These reductions in the number of tests conform the state testing requirements to the current testing requirements in the USDA Code of Federal Regulations.

Any interested persons may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before November 18, 2014. Written comments should be addressed to Margaret Thomson, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Wallace State Office Building, 502 East Ninth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. Comments may be submitted by fax to (515)281-6236 or by e-mail to Margaret.Thomson@IowaAgriculture.gov.

The proposed amendments are subject to the Department’s general waiver provision.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no adverse impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 163.1.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend paragraphs **64.187(1)“a”** and **“b”** as follows:

a. Preslaughter/movement testing. A minimum of ~~15~~ six blood samples per flock may be collected and forwarded to an approved laboratory for LPAI testing within 21 days prior to depopulation or movement; or

b. Slaughter/disposal testing. ~~Twenty~~ Six blood samples per flock shall be collected at slaughter/disposal and forwarded to an approved laboratory for LPAI testing.

ITEM 2. Amend paragraph **64.187(2)“a”** as follows:

a. Preslaughter/disposal/movement testing. ~~Fifteen~~ Eleven blood samples shall be collected and forwarded to an approved laboratory for LPAI testing within 30 days prior to depopulation or disposal of spent hens or movement of pre-lay pullets to another farm.

ITEM 3. Amend paragraph **64.187(2)“c”** as follows:

c. Routine serologic testing. A test for LPAI of 11 birds per barn during a 12-month period ~~should~~ shall be included collected and forwarded.

ITEM 4. Amend paragraphs **64.187(3)“a”** and **“b”** as follows:

a. Preslaughter testing. ~~Twenty~~ Eleven blood samples may be collected and forwarded to an approved laboratory for LPAI testing within 21 days prior to depopulation; or

b. Slaughter/disposal testing. ~~Twenty~~ Eleven blood samples shall be collected at slaughter/disposal and forwarded to an approved laboratory for LPAI testing.